

News from the National Civil Service League

Room 201, 1616 H Street, NW., Washington 6, D. C.

Tom Miles George Wells DI 7-2077

For Release SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 -

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 -- The nation's first woman career ambassador and nine high ranking government administrators will receive this year's Career Service Awards, presented by the National Civil Service League.

The 81-year-old League, a nonpartisan citizens' organization devoted to improving the government service, will present the awards at a public banquet on Tuesday, March 13, at 7 pm. in the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Several of the winners have risen from the bottom of the Civil Service ladder to the top. Many became government employees upon completion of college, and most have more than 25 years of service.

Those to be honored are:

Howard B. Andervont, former chief of the Biology Laboratory, National Cancer Institute, and now editor of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, who is cited by the League as "an internationally famous authority in cancer research." He is credited with directing many early and valuable studies relating cancer to viruses,

Davis V. Auld, director of sanitary engineering, District of Columbia Government, is honored for his self-financing program of water and sewage disposal in the District. Also, his leadership is acclaimed in making the Nation's Capital "one of the few cities in the United States which does not have a water supply problem."

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Dr. A. Ross Eckler, deputy director of the Bureau of the Census, according to the League, has made Census statistics more easily understood and therefore more useful to the public and business. Also he has developed several new reporting programs and introduced electronic computing equipment to the Bureau to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

William H. Godel, deputy director, Advanced Research Projects Agency, Department of Defense, was cited by his agency as "a generalist of the highest order." He has packed into his 40 years a colorful career with a variety of achievements ranging from Marine Corps intelligence officer to psychological warfare and manager of the launching of the world's first communications satellite.

Dr. Wayne C. Grover, archivist of the United States, is credited with developing the National Archives from a small operation centered in Washington to a nationwide service to the Federal government and to the public. At the same time he has managed to reduce the contents of the National Archives Building by 15 per cent. He directed the development of the Truman and Eisenhower Presidential Libraries and the Sam Rayburn Memorial Library.

Bertrand M. Harding, deputy commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, in less than 20 years has progressed from the bottom to the top of the Civil Service ladder. His credited achievements include simplifying methods for taxpayers to comply with all Federal tax obligations, and also applying data processing techniques in the Department to speed handling of returns.

Philip S. Hughes, assistant director for legislative reference, Bureau of the Budget, reviews all legislative proposals from executives agencies for the President, and assists in presenting the President's program to Congress. He is cited for his ability in handling this job, termed "one of the highest and most delicate in the Federal service."

(more)

Dr. Abe Silverstein, director, Lewis Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Cleveland, Ohio, is receiving credit for his 32 years of leadership in aircraft and space technology, particularly the current Mercury astronaut program.

Also credited to his direction are the Tiros weather satellite, Echo communications satellite, the high thrust rocket engine for future manned space flights, and the Rover nuclear rocket. His work also has led to improvement of jet engines and high speed aircraft design.

Leo R. Werts, Administrative Assistant Secretary of Labor received the Labor Department's Distinguished Service Award for his review of the Department's programs and administration. He is credited also with developing an exchange program of labor leaders between this country and Germany resulting in a non-communist German labor movement.

The Hon. Frances Elizabeth Willis, United States Ambassador to Ceylon, became the first woman to rise from Civil Service ranks to become career ambassador. In 1953 she was appointed to represent the U.S. in its relations with Switzerland, and in 1957 she became Ambassador to Norway, assuming her present post last year. Also, she was the first woman to attain the position of career minister when she served in charge of the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm in 1932.

About a thousand persons are expected to attend the awards banquet, including members of the Cabinet, members of Congress, Civil Service employees and the public. Senator Henry M. Jackson, chairman of the National Policy Subcommittee of the Senate Government Operations Committee, will be the principal speaker.

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Career Awards From League to Honor U. S. Officials

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